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Coordination programme and other questions: international cooperation in the field of informatics

Economic and environmental questions: science and technology for development

Preparations for the World Summit on the Information Society

Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

1. The present addendum contains updated information on the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit on the Information Society.

Report of the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee

2. The first meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit on the Information Society was held at the Centre International de Conférences, Geneva, from 1 to 5 July 2002. Adama Samassekou (Mali) was elected as President of the Preparatory Committee, along with 14 Vice-Presidents and 1 Vice-President each from Switzerland and Tunisia ex officio, these constituting the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee. The members of the Bureau are: Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali and South Africa for the African Group; Brunei Darussalam, Japan and Pakistan for the Asia Group; Latvia, Romania and Russian Federation for the Eastern European Group; Brazil, Dominican Republic and Mexico for the Latin American and Caribbean Group; and Finland, France and United States of America

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for the Western Group. The meeting was attended by 909 participants, including 607 delegates from 142 member States, 34 participants from business sector entities, 223 participants from non-governmental organizations and civil society, and 110 participants from United Nations bodies and international organizations. The report of the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee and the documentation for the meeting can be found on the Internet at http://www.itu.int/wsis.

3. The meeting adopted rules of procedure for the Preparatory Committee meetings and arrangements for accreditation. The meeting also adopted, as a whole, a document on principles guiding the preparatory work and the Summit, with some components remaining to be clarified in the future work of the Preparatory Committee.

4. The second and third meetings of the Preparatory Committee will be held in Geneva during February and September 2003, respectively.

5. A series of regional preparatory conferences have been announced in advance of the second meeting of the Preparatory Committee. They are scheduled for Bucharest (7-9 November 2002); Tokyo (13-15 January 2003); and the Dominican Republic (first quarter of 2003). A second preparatory conference is also being considered in the African region, as well as a meeting for the Arab States.